

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2 (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A method of forging a material, said method comprising:
adding a second material to a ~~first material~~ steel to obtain a third material, the second material comprising at least one metal from the group consisting of group VB metals;
heating the third material to a temperature in a range of 1150 - 1250 °C;
forging the heated third material to a prescribed shape;
cooling the forged third material;
holding the cooled forged third material in a tempering temperature area of a furnace at a temperature in a range of 500 - 700 °C; and
cooling the cooled forged material to a normal temperature by natural cooling, so that carbon and nitrides that include the second material ~~may~~ precipitate on the ~~first material~~ steel.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said holding comprises holding the cooled forged material for 30-60 minutes.